14303 (0901.68198)

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Richard J. Ernst

Serial No.:

10/687,451

Conf. No.:

8743

Filed:

October 16, 2003

For:

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ROD TO A SUBSTRATE

Art Unit:

3632

Examiner:

Epps, Todd Michael

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

September 7, 2006

Date

Registration No. 40,607
Attorney for Applicant(s)

<u>AMENDMENT E</u>

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on June 8, 2006, the Applicant through his undersigned attorney provides the following amendments and remarks.